

Nevada Indian Commission
Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee
February 19, 2013
Nevada Indian Commission, 5500 Snyder Avenue, Building #3, Carson City, NV

Present: Gayleen Roy, Education Director, Yerington Paiute Tribe; Suki Graves, Child and Family Specialist, Office of Childcare, Administration for Children and Families; Sherry Ely-Mendes, Chairperson, Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee and Children's Cabinet; Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Chris Ann Gibbons, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Indian Commission; Veronica Domingues-Gephart, Native American Representative, Early Intervention Services Interagency Coordinating Council; San San Tin, Education Director Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; Fredina Drye-Romero, Education Programs Professional, Indian Education, Nevada Department of Education; Brenda Bledsoe, Development Specialist, Nevada Division of Aging and Disability Services

- I. Invocation
 - a. The invocation was given by Fredina Drye-Romero.
- II. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Sherry Ely-Mendes called the meeting to order at 1:10pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
- III. Initial Public Comment
 - a. There were no initial public comments made at the meeting.
- IV. For Possible Action: Approval of January 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes
 - a. With no changes made, San San Tin motioned to approve the minutes of January 22, 2013, seconded by Fredina Drye-Romero. Motion carried.
- V. For Possible Action: Possible Approval of Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee (TECAC) Appointment of Representative Forms
 - a. Sherry Rupert reported no appointment of representative forms had been received.
- VI. For Possible Action: Update on Tribal Early Childhood Public Awareness Video and Brochure
 - a. Sherry R. reported the Tribal Early Childhood Public Awareness video is near completion. Sherry said three segments still need to be filmed which includes securing either the Governor or the First Lady for inclusion in the video. Also, a draft of the brochure has been forwarded to a graphic designer and Sherry said she will work with him to put together a draft of the brochure for Committee review.
- VII. For Possible Action: Update on Needs Assessment Survey to be Sent to Tribal Childcare Facilities and Nevada Tribes
 - a. Sherry R. said she will send out the survey after this meeting to the TECAC list serve and would like comments on the survey by end of day February 20, 2013.
 - b. Sherry E. commented tribes have voiced the need for more training and that she looks forward to seeing their input so that we can start looking for possible training resources.

- VIII. For Possible Action: Discussion and Review of Draft TECAC Track at the Nevada American Indian Alaska Native Education Summit, Reno, NV – March 11-12, 2013
- a. Sherry R. said a draft of the TECAC track at the upcoming Nevada American Indian Alaska Native Education Summit has been outlined. The Summit will have four sessions set aside for TECAC. Topics and presenters need to be finalized as soon as possible.
 - b. Sherry E. asked if the TECAC video will be completed by the Summit. Sherry R. replied she will discuss this with KNPB, but the remaining 3 segments still need to be filmed.
 - c. Sherry E. said she contacted Anna Severens from Nevada Department of Education and Anna said she will not be able to present at the time given, but could find someone else to present information on aligning prekindergarten standards to the K-12 Common Core Standards.
 - d. Veronica Domingues-Gephart said Early Intervention Services approached her and stated they would like to participate again in the Summit. Chris Ann Gibbons added it would be good to have early intervention services bring in examples this year of what types of services are available to infants and toddlers once the initial evaluation has been completed.
 - e. Sherry E. stated that Theresa Rowe from the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California will present information on early childhood curriculum at the Washoe Head Start and Nevada TACSEL.
 - f. Sherry R. said she will work on finalizing the sessions with the information gathered today and will forward the information for inclusion in the Summit agenda.
- IX. Update on Nevada Public Health Foundation Grant
- a. Sherry R. reported the Nevada Public Health Foundation Grant was submitted and notification has been received that TECAC has been awarded \$5,000.00 in grant funds.
 - b. Sherry R. said she is in the process of reviewing the grant agreement and the funds will be used mainly for travel expenses to distribute the TECAC video and brochure.
 - c. The Committee has until June 30, 2013 to utilize the funds so we need to begin spending the funds as soon as possible.
- X. For Possible Action: Discussion and Review of TECAC Strategic Plan and Determination of 2013 TECAC Goals
- a. Sherry R. and Sherry E. agreed to revisit this agenda item once the survey results are compiled. One of the goals for 2013 will be to disseminate the TECAC brochure and video to Nevada tribes.
- XI. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
- a. Sherry R. thanked everyone who attended the Nevada Tribe's Legislative Day and it was estimated that 25 Legislators attended the event. Also, on that day SB23 was heard and 10 people testified in favor of the bill. SB 23 establishes "Nevada Tribes Legislative Day" as a day of observance. Sherry R. said the legislators seemed to appreciate all of the support for the bill as they had to open the overflow room for attendees. The bill passed out of the Senate yesterday and will now go to the Assembly for approval. Sherry R. thanked Fredina Drye-Romero for assisting in getting youth from Pyramid Lake to testify on behalf of the bill.

- b. Suki stated there is a White House fact sheet that talks about the drastic effect the automatic spending cuts will have on Head Start programs nationally. Suki added there is a need for more tribal Head Start programs and the imposed cuts would definitely hurt this program.
- XII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Nevada American Indian Alaska Native Education Summit
 - b. Nevada Child Care and Development Plan
 - c. Emergency Preparedness
 - d. Silver State Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
 - e. MOU with Nevada Early Intervention Services
 - f. TECAC video and brochure
 - g. TECAC survey
- XIII. Scheduling and Location of Next Tribal Early Childhood Advisory Committee Meeting
 - a. The next meeting was scheduled for May 21, 2013 from 1-3pm at the Nevada Indian Commission.
- XIV. Final Public Comments
 - a. There were no final public comments made at the meeting.
- XV. Adjournment
 - a. San San Tin motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Veronica Domingues-Gephart. Motion carried.
 - b. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55pm.